

Romans 12

King James Version (KJV)

NOTE: (The next verses teach us how to live socially)

12 I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that ye present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable unto God, which is your reasonable service. (God makes salvation easy for us, although He paid a high price for it on the cross. The least we can do is to live by His Ten Commandments and be a good example to others)

Hosea-6:6 (God wants our love and devotion as our sacrifice to Him)

²And be not conformed to this world: but be ye transformed by the renewing of your mind, that ye may prove what is that good, and acceptable, and perfect, will of God. (Don't let the evil ways of this world tempt you. Pray for guidance in God's will; not in yours)

³For I say, through the grace given unto me, to every man that is among you, not to think of himself more highly than he ought to think; but to think soberly, according as God hath dealt to every man the measure of faith. (An ego problem will lead you to sin. Be grateful for what you have received. Let your gifts grow through your good works)

⁴For as we have many members in one body, and all members have not the same office: (We are all a part of Christianity. We all have a different part to play in that group)

⁵So we, being many, are one body in Christ, and every one members one of another. (Jesus Christ is the head of Christianity)

⁶Having then gifts differing according to the grace that is given to us, whether prophecy, let us prophesy according to the proportion of faith;

⁷Or ministry, let us wait on our ministering: or he that teacheth, on teaching; (Paul was not a prophet. His part in Christianity was to be a Bible teacher) see Act-9:15-17

(We are not all meant to be teachers, but we can all do some part in advancing Christianity to others – by being a good example, if nothing else)

⁸Or he that exhorteth, on exhortation: he that giveth, let him do it with simplicity; he that ruleth, with diligence; he that sheweth mercy, with cheerfulness. (Be happy with your duty as a Christian; and do it to the best of your abilities)

⁹Let love be without dissimulation. Abhor that which is evil; cleave to that which is good. (Let your love be real. Stay with the good; and avoid evil. It will bring you nothing but trouble)

NOTE: (The next verses teach us how to get along in society)

¹⁰Be kindly affectioned one to another with brotherly love; in honour preferring one another; (We all have different gifts. Yet that all pay the same – eternal life with God) Matthew-20:1-16

¹¹Not slothful in business; fervent in spirit; serving the Lord; (A lazy employee is a bad example. Earn you pay and be a good example to others. Do the best job that you can and you will be successful)

¹²Rejoicing in hope; patient in tribulation; continuing instant in prayer; (We all have trouble occasionally. Be patient and you'll get through it. Keep your eye on God and He will help you)

¹³Distributing to the necessity of saints; given to hospitality. (Be hospitable to others if they act decently. Trust is earned, not given)

¹⁴Bless them which persecute you: bless, and curse not. (By blessing them, pray that God will straighten them out. God can deal with any evil person)

(But don't be a pushover or a doormat. Christians are not second class citizens. Defend yourself and your family if anyone tries to mess with you. Sorry, Paul. I completely disagree)

¹⁵Rejoice with them that do rejoice, and weep with them that weep. (Be compassionate to others. Be happy with them when they're happy and show support when they are not)

¹⁶Be of the same mind one toward another. Mind not high things, but condescend to men of low estate. Be not wise in your own conceits.

(Don't be conceited. Don't look down on people who are not as fortunate as you – either in wealth or in knowledge and wisdom)

¹⁷ Recompense to no man evil for evil. Provide things honest in the sight of all men. (Be an honest person with all people. But, defend yourself if you are attacked. There is a difference between self defense and revenge. As far as revenge is concerned, God will deal with them later)

¹⁸ If it be possible, as much as lieth in you, live peaceably with all men. (Never start trouble. Try to get along with people – if possible)

(Stay away from those who are intent in causing trouble. And if they come after you, defend yourself. Some people need an attitude adjustment)

¹⁹ Dearly beloved, avenge not yourselves, but rather give place unto wrath: for it is written, Vengeance is mine; I will repay, saith the Lord. Deuteronomy-32:35 (Leave vengeance up to God. HE can easily deal with any troublemakers)

²⁰ Therefore if thine enemy hunger, feed him; if he thirst, give him drink: for in so doing thou shalt heap coals of fire on his head. (Paul is speaking spiritually. Feed him the Word of God. If they change for the better, that's good. If they don't, they can't claim that they didn't know better)

NOTE: (Being a good person makes it difficult for someone to hate you. But, don't be a stupid pushover to someone intent on harming you or your family)

²¹ Be not overcome of evil, but overcome evil with good. (Never succumb to evil – regardless of their numbers. You and God make up a majority)